

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for removing a hydrated contact lens from a mold, comprising the steps of:

moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold comprising moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens, and moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and

applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

Claims 2. – 4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens~~ A method for removing a hydrated contact lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of: a mold comprising:  
moving the lens in a series of distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens; and  
rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens ~~still adhering to the mold~~ further comprises ~~the step of~~ rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

8. (canceled)

9. (Original) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens~~ A method for removing a hydrated contact lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of: a mold comprising:

rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface; ~~[[and]]~~

moving the lens in a series of changing and recurring linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens; and

applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 7, wherein the ~~step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of:~~ rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface occurs while moving the lens in the first and the second linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5, wherein the ~~step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of:~~ rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface occurs while moving the lens in ~~[[a]]~~ the series of changing and recurring distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold comprises applying sufficient vacuum on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

13. (currently amended) A method for removing a hydrated contact lens from a mold, comprising the steps of:

moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold comprising moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens, and moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the

lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction while applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 13, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens ~~still adhering to the mold while applying sufficient vacuum on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold~~ further comprises the steps of:

~~moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens;~~  
~~moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens~~  
~~and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and further comprises~~  
rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

16. - 24 (canceled)

25. (currently amended) A method for removing a hydrated contact lens from a mold, comprising the steps of:

applying sufficient vacuum to an exposed face of the lens to hold the lens securely;  
moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold comprising moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens, and moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and  
applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold further comprises ~~the steps of:~~

~~moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens;~~

~~moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and~~  
rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

27.- 28 (canceled)

29. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 25, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens~~ A method for removing a hydrated contact lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of a mold comprising:  
applying sufficient vacuum to an exposed face of the lens to hold the lens securely;

moving the lens in a series of distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens; [[and]]

rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface; and

applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

30. – 35. (canceled)

36. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold comprises applying sufficient vacuum on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

37. (currently amended) A method for removing a bifocal, hydrated contact lens from a mold, comprising the steps of:

exposing one face of the bifocal lens by removing one or more mold sections;

positioning a vacuum instrument over the exposed face of the bifocal lens[[:]] and  
applying sufficient vacuum to the exposed face of the bifocal lens to hold the lens securely;

moving the bifocal lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold comprising moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens, and moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and

applying sufficient force on the bifocal lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

38. (currently amended!) The method of claim 37, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens ~~still adhering to the mold~~ further comprises the steps of:

~~moving the lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens;~~  
~~moving the lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens~~  
~~and at a large angle to the first linear direction;~~ and  
rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

39. - 40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens~~ A method for removing a bifocal, hydrated contact lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of: a mold comprising:

moving the bifocal lens in a series of distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens; and  
rotating the bifocal lens around an axis normal to the lens surface.

42. - 43. (canceled)

44. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[37]]~~ 38, wherein the ~~step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold~~ further comprises the steps of:

rotating the bifocal lens around an axis normal to the lens surface[; and] occurs while moving the lens in a series of distinct the first and the second linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens.

45. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 37, wherein the step of moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens~~ A method for removing a bifocal, hydrated contact lens still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of a mold comprising:

rotating the bifocal lens around an axis normal to the lens surface; and  
moving the bifocal lens in a series of ~~changing and recurring~~ distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens.

46. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 37, wherein the step of~~ A method for removing a bifocal, hydrated contact lens from a mold, comprising the steps of:

moving the lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens still adhering to the mold ~~further comprises the steps of:~~

~~rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface while moving the lens in a series of distinct linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens~~ comprising moving the bifocal lens in a first linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens, and moving the multifocal lens in a second linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens and at a large angle to the first linear direction; and

applying sufficient force on the multifocal lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

47. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[37]]~~ 46, wherein the step of moving the bifocal lens in a pattern tangential to the surface of the lens ~~still adhering to the mold further comprises the steps of:~~

rotating the lens around an axis normal to the lens surface ~~while moving the lens in a series of changing and recurring linear directions tangential to the surface of the lens.~~

48. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the step of applying sufficient force on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold comprises applying sufficient vacuum on the lens normal to and away from the mold to separate the lens from the mold.

49. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein moving the lens in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.6% to 98.3%.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the contact lens has a Sku from -3.00 D to -10.00 D.

51. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 2, wherein moving the lens in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.6% to 98.3%.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the contact lens has a Sku from -3.00 D to -10.00 D.

53. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[28]]~~ 37, wherein moving the lens in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.6% to 98.3%.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the contact lens has a Sku from -3.00 D to -10.00 D.

55. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[40]]~~ 46, wherein moving the lens in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.6% to 98.3%.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the contact lens has a Sku from  $-3.00\text{ D}$  to  $-10.00\text{ D}$ .

57. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein moving the bifocal lens having an sku of  $-0.50\text{D}$  (low add) to  $-4.0\text{D}$  (low add) in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 95.3% to 98.3%.

58. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein moving the bifocal lens having an sku of  $-0.50\text{D}$  (low add) to  $-4.0\text{D}$  (low add) in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 95.3% to 98.3%.

60. (new) The method of claim 46, wherein moving the bifocal lens having an sku of  $-0.50\text{D}$  (low add) to  $-4.0\text{D}$  (low add) in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 95.3% to 98.3%.

60. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein moving the bifocal lens having an sku of  $-1.0\text{D}$  (high add) to  $-3.0\text{D}$  (high add) in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.8% to 98.2%.

61. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein moving the bifocal lens having an sku of  $-10.0\text{D}$  (low add) in the linear direction tangential to the surface of the lens provides a pick yield for the lens of from 84.6% to 91.6%.